

General Certificate of Secondary Education
Religious Studies (World Religions)
Christian Scriptures 1
Specimen Paper

B583

Time: 1 hour

Candidates answer on the question paper.

Additional materials: none

Candidate
Forename

Candidate
Surname

Centre Number

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Candidate
Number

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INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the boxes above.
- Use black ink only.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Answer any **TWO** questions; you must answer all parts (a-c) of the two questions that you choose.
- Do not write in the bar codes.
- Do not write outside the box bordering each page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks for each question is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **48**.
- Quality of written communication is assessed throughout the paper
- Should you need more space to write your answers there is an extra page at the end of the paper.
- If you need to use this extra page you must number your answers clearly.

This document consists of **8** printed pages.

Answer **TWO** questions (a, b and c parts should be answered for **each** question).

- 1 (a)** What did the people of Jesus' time believe about illness and evil spirits?

[6]

- (b)** Explain what happened when Jesus healed a Demon-possessed Man (Legion).

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[6]

- (c)** 'Mark's stories of Jesus defeating evil spirits are not important to Christians today.'

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

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[12]

[12]

Total [24]

[Turn over

2 (a) What happened when Pilate tried to set Jesus free?

[6]

(b) Explain the crucifixion and death of Jesus, as told by Mark.

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[6]

- (c)** 'The crucifixion is the most important event in Mark's gospel.'

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

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[12]

Total [24]

[Turn over

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

Extra Answer Space

Clearly label which question you are answering.

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The maximum mark for this paper is **48**.

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Christian Scriptures 1: The Life of Jesus through a study of Mark.		
Question Number	Answer	Max Mark
1(a)	<p>What did the people of Jesus' time believe about illness and evil spirits?</p> <p>Answers may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental illness and other forms of sickness were believed to be caused by evil spirits, which possessed the person and caused disturbed behaviour; • It was thought that people could only be cured by casting out the evil spirits by exorcism; • Generally, it was believed that there was a connection between sickness and sin. • Most people who suffered from illness were seen as unclean and were outcasts from society. 	[6]
(b)	<p>Explain what happened when Jesus healed a Demon-possessed Man (Legion).</p> <p>Answers are likely to include by quotation or paraphrase the main details of the healing/exorcism of Legion from Mark 5:1-20 and explain how Jesus healed the man of his madness by direct confrontation with the evil spirits.</p> <p>Candidates should be able to explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The man lived among the tombs, he had once been bound and chained but he tore the chains and broke the irons. No one was strong enough to subdue him; • He was possessed with demons and cried out and cut himself with stones; • The demons in the man addressed Jesus as 'Son of the most High God'; • They recognised the authority of Jesus when addressed by him; • The man's name, Legion indicated he was possessed by many demons. "We are many..."; • The demons asked to be sent into a herd of pigs. The herd rushed down a steep bank into the Lake and were drowned; • Those tending the pigs ran off and spread the word; • When the people of the area investigated what had happened they saw Legion sitting there, dressed and in his right mind and they were afraid; • They asked Jesus to leave the region and take Legion with him; • Jesus instructed Legion to go home to his family and tell them 'how much the Lord has done for you'. 	[6]

Christian Scriptures 1: The Life of Jesus through a study of Mark.		
Question Number	Answer	Max Mark
(c)	<p>‘Mark’s stories of Jesus defeating evil spirits are not important to Christians today.’</p> <p>Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.</p> <p>Answers may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an evaluation of whether the stories are important to Christians might be dealt with on a simple level of the fight between good and evil, which is always relevant, with Jesus demonstrating his power over the devil; • another view might be that the stories of exorcism meant more in New Testament times than they do today because we have a better understanding of illness and would not associate it with evil spirits; • miracle stories are still important as demonstrations of Jesus divine powers. 	[12]
2(a)	<p>What happened when Pilate tried to set Jesus free?</p> <p>Answers might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge of the event in Mark 15:6-15; • Pilate, according to Festival custom, attempted to release Jesus; • the call for the release of Barabbas; • the envy of the chief priests, who stirred up the crowd; • the cry ‘Crucify him’, twice, in response to Pilate’s exclamations ‘What shall I do with the King of the Jews?’ and ‘He has committed no crime.’ etc. 	[6]
(b)	<p>Describe the crucifixion and death of Jesus, as told by Mark.</p> <p>An account of the crucifixion Mark 15:21-41. The passage begins with the carrying of the cross by Simon of Cyrene. Answers are likely to be comprehensive and accurate to the sequence of events in the passage.</p> <p>Candidates should be able to explain some of the main details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • carrying the cross; • casting lots; • the notice; • the two robbers; • the mockery; • darkness and Jesus’ last words; • the Temple curtain; • the centurion. <p>Answers are likely to include some of the symbolism in Mark’s account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fulfilment of scripture; • Jesus as Messiah (The King of the Jews), a sacrifice to save sins; • the insults in the mockery; 	[6]

Christian Scriptures 1: The Life of Jesus through a study of Mark.		
Question Number	Answer	Max Mark
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the ambiguity of Jesus' last words 'My God, My God why have you forsaken me? the possible meaning of the darkness, the Temple curtain torn – breaking down the barrier between man and God. the centurion's recognition of Jesus as The Son of God. 	
(c)	<p>'The crucifixion is the most important event in Mark's gospel.' Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.</p> <p>Answers might:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> assess the crucifixion as the climax and fulfilment of Jesus' ministry/destiny and also as a dramatic part (end?) of the gospel story; argue the reasons why parts of the ministry/gospel are more or equally as important as the crucifixion.; the death and resurrection were a necessary progression of events from the ministry and crucifixion. 	[12]
3(a)	<p>Describe the Feeding of the Five Thousand.</p> <p>An account of the Feeding of the Five thousand from Mark 6:30-44. The major details and explanation of the account might focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a miracle story of God intervening with nature to provide for those hungry and in need and proof of Jesus as Son of God; the blessing of the bread might be explained as a precursor to the Eucharist; Jesus was teaching late in the day, in a remote place; his disciples approached him to send the people away to buy something to eat; an account of Jesus' answer and the disciples reply; the five loaves and two fish; the arranging of the people in hundreds and fifties; reference to Jesus giving thanks to God before the distribution of the food, a significant part of the text, pre-figuring the Eucharist; they all ate and were satisfied and twelve baskets were left over. 	[6]
(b)	<p>Why are some miracles performed by Jesus called 'nature miracles'?</p> <p>Answers are likely to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> name any of the nature miracles in Mark; refer to them as demonstrations of Jesus' intervening power over the forces of nature, as representative of God's power on earth. 	[6]

Christian Scriptures 1: The Life of Jesus through a study of Mark.		
Question Number	Answer	Max Mark
(c)	<p>The response might be a general one or specific to any of the miracles: The calming of the Storm, Jesus Walks on Water, Feeding the Five Thousand.</p> <p>‘The Feeding of the Five Thousand is definite proof that Jesus was the Son of God.’</p> <p>Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.</p> <p>Answers might:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • expand on information from part (b) about the power of God to intervene on earth, to support the statement; • expand evidence from part (a) to show Jesus providing for people, as God does etc. • An alternative view might be based upon the reliability of the account or the credibility of the events as reported by Mark and how they are interpreted. 	[12]
Paper Total		[48]

Assessment Objectives Grid (includes QWC)

Question	AO1	AO2	Total
1(a)	6		6
1(b)	6		6
1(c)		12	12
2(a)	6		6
2(b)	6		6
2(c)		12	12
3(a)	6		6
3(b)	6		6
3(c)		12	12
Totals	24	24	48

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